

Hunting and Trapping

Emergency Order

Under the Authority of AS 16.05.060

Alaska Department
of Fish and Game

Emergency Order 05-06-03

Issued at Bethel, Alaska
December 18, 2003

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m.
December 27, 2003

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. January 5, 2004
unless superseded by subsequent
emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order opens from December 27, 2003 to January 5, 2004 the resident moose season with a bag limit of one bull in the following portion of Unit 18:

1. Westerly of a line from the mouth of the Ishkowiik River to the closest point of Dall Lake then to the easternmost point of Takslesluk Lake then along the Kuskokwim River drainage boundary to the Unit 18 border, and
2. South of and easterly of a line from Cape Romanzof to Kuzilvak Mountain to Mountain Village, and within all Yukon River drainages upriver from Mt. Village.

All other moose seasons and bag limits in Unit 18 remain unchanged and are not affected by this emergency order.

REGULATION:

Therefore, the following regulations in **5 AAC 85.045 (a) (16) HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE** pertaining to **Unit 18** are superseded by this emergency order, as follows:

Units and Bag Limits	Resident	Nonresident
	Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)	Open Season

(16)

Unit 18, that portion including all Yukon River drainages north of the south banks of Kwikluak Pass and the Yukon River, including sloughs, downstream of Mountain Village

1 bull	Sept. 5-Sept. 25	Sept. 5-Sept. 25
Unit 18, that portion including all Yukon River drainages north of the south bank of the Yukon River, including sloughs, upstream from Mountain Village		
1 bull per regulatory year	Sept. 1-Sept. 30 Dec. 27-Jan. 5	Sept. 1-Sept. 30
Unit 18, that portion south of the south banks of Kwikluak Pass and the Yukon River, and north and west of a line from Cape Romanzof to Kuzilvak Mountain, and then to Mountain Village		
1 bull	Sept. 5-Sept. 25	No open season.
Unit 18, that portion easterly of a line from the mouth of the Ishkowitz River to the closest point of Dall Lake then to the easternmost point of Takslesluk Lake then along the Kuskokwim River drainage boundary to the Unit 18 border		
1 bull	Sept. 1-Sept. 30	No open season
Remainder of Unit 18		
1 bull per regulatory year	Sept. 1-Sept. 30 Dec. 27-Jan. 5	No open season

Kevin Duffy
Commissioner

By delegation to:



Roger Seavoy
Area Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

The Alaska Board of Game authorized a 10-day winter resident moose season for bulls only in a portion of Unit 18. This period is set when weather and snow conditions are expected to be adequate to allow hunters to more safely access their hunting areas. A poll of villages was conducted to assist in determining an appropriate opening.

Moose numbers along the Yukon River are believed to be sufficient to conduct this 10-day, bulls only hunt.

This emergency order does not open the moose season in that portion of Unit 18 north and west of a line from Cape Romanzof to Kuzilvak Mt. to Mountain Village and west of the Yukon River drainages upriver of Mountain Village. All drainages of the Yukon River downstream of Mountain Village are included in this closed area and are not open to additional moose hunting.

Also, this opening does not include that portion of Unit 18, easterly of a line from the mouth of the Ishkowiik River to the closest point of Dall Lake then to the easternmost point of Takslesluk Lake then along the Kuskokwim River drainage boundary to the Unit 18 border. This closed area includes the excellent moose habitat along the Kuskokwim River. Due to low moose numbers, a winter season in the Kuskokwim portion of Unit 18 is not justified. Further, this area remains closed following considerable discussion with the Lower Kuskokwim Advisory Committee, the Federal Subsistence Regional Advisory Council, the US Fish and Wildlife Service, and several active area villages. The consensus of these groups was to leave this area closed to encourage moose population growth.
